

BUCKINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
and the
SANITARY INSPECTOR.

1943.

COUNCIL OFFICES,
SCHOOL LANE,
BUCKINGHAM.

List of Parishes in the Council's Area.

Addington	Marsh Gibbon
Adstock	Middle Claydon
Akeley	Poundon
Barton Hartshorne	Preston Bissett
Biddlesden	Padbury
Beachampton	Radclive-cum-Chackmore
Charndon	Shalstone
Chetwode	Stowe
Edgcott	Steeple Claydon
Foscott	Tingewick
Hillesden	Thornton
Leckhampstead	Thornborough
Lillingstone Dayrell	Turweston
Lillingstone Lovell	Twyford
Luffield Abbey	Water Stratford
Maids Moreton	Westbury

BUCKINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT.

Chairman	...	W. C. CULLEY, Esq.
Vice-Chairman	...	W. F. WOOD, Esq.
Treasurers	LLOYDS BANK LTD.,	Buckingham
Clerk	...	E. H. FLOYD, [REDACTED]
Medical Officer of Health	...	DR. J. C. RONALDSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Edin. Univ.
Sanitary Inspector & Surveyor	F. T. JENNINGS, [REDACTED], A.R.San.I., A.I.S.E., A.Inst.B.E.	

To the Chairman and Members of the Buckingham Rural District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting my second Annual Report which reviews the health conditions of the Rural District of Buckingham in 1943. Again, in accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular of February, 1940, it has been necessary to curtail the substance of the Report.

There has been very little change in the Health Services. In the schools, the routine Medical Inspection of the eight-year-old group has been eliminated as a war-time measure, but defective children are presented for medical attention where necessary, and there is routine testing of vision.

Diphtheria Immunisation is proceeding satisfactorily, and no cases of Diphtheria have been reported.

There was a slight reduction in the civil population, owing, no doubt, to the freedom from air raids in 1943. The number of inhabited houses, however, remained approximately the same.

The incidence of Infectious Disease has again been remarkably low. A small outbreak of Measles occurred but other diseases were merely sporadic.

As in 1942, the general health of the area has been very satisfactory.

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Jennings and his staff for their ready help and co-operation at all times.

I have the honour to remain,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JANET CARFRAE RONALDSON,
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Edin. Univ.,

Acting Medical Officer of Health.

Section A.**Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.**

Area of District (exclusive of land covered by water)	..	..	...	...	...	54,543 acres
Population, 1942	...	...	...	...	...	9075
Population, 1943	...	...	...	...	...	8594
Number of inhabited houses, 1942	..					2517
Number of inhabited houses, 1943	...	...				2523
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£35,530
Product of 1d. Rate	...	...	...			£149 1s. 4d.

With the exception of the employees at the brickyard at Calvert, the inhabitants of the District are engaged in agricultural work, and, generally speaking, the health of the area is good.

Vital Statistics.

Live Births:		M.	F.	
Legitimate	...	62	59	
Illegitimate	...	4	2	
		—	—	
Total	...	66	61	= 14.7778 per 1000 population
		—	—	

Still Births:		M.	F.	
Legitimate	...	2	4	
Illegitimate	...		1	
		—	—	
Total	...	2	5	= .8122 „ „
		—	—	

Infant Death-rate (Infants under one year):

		M.	F.	
Legitimate	...		2	
Illegitimate	...			
			—	
Total	...		2	= .2327 „ „
			—	

Deaths:	M.	F.	Total	
	46	48	94	= 10.9378 „ „

Causes of Death :

	M.	F.
Syphilitic Diseases		1
Influenza	1	
Cancer of buc. cav. and oesoph. ...	1	
Cancer of stomach and duodenum ...	3	2
Cancer of breast		1
Other sites	2	1
Diabetes		1
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	3	9
Heart Diseases	17	14
Other diseases of the circulatory system		1
Bronchitis	4	3
Pneumonia... ..	1	2
Other respiratory diseases	3	1
Appendicitis	1	
Other digestive diseases	2	
Nephritis		1
Injuries at Birth		1
Suicide		1
Road Traffic Accident	1	
Other violent causes	3	
All other causes	4	9
	46	48

Notified Infectious Diseases :

Diphtheria	0
Scarlet Fever	5
Whooping Cough	1
Measles	27
Pneumonia	7
	40

Diphtheria Immunisation :

	Under 5 years	Over 5 years	Total
Number of children immunised	26	34	60
Percentage	67.4	98.2	

Tuberculosis :

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Number of cases notified ...	3	3	1	0

Section B.

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

1. PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

(a) *Medical*.—One part-time Medical Officer of Health.

(b) One whole-time Sanitary Inspector, who also acts as Surveyor and Inspector under the Meat Regulations. He holds the following :—

Associateship of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

„ „ Institute of Sanitary Engineers.

„ „ Institute of British Engineers.

There are six District Nurses in the area, one each at Lillingstone Dayrell, Steeple Claydon, Tingewick, Twyford, Padbury and Westbury, five of whom hold the C.M.B. Certificate.

2. SERVICES PROVIDED.

No changes have taken place in the area as regards Nursing in the Home, Clinics and Treatment Centres, Hospital Ambulance facilities, Laboratory Services and A.R.P.

Section C.

Sanitary Circumstances and Administration of Area.

1. WATER SUPPLY.

All parishes are now supplied by the Bucks Water Board's Mains.

2. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The present drainage and sewerage systems of many parishes are not all we might desire. Three only have adequate sewage disposal systems, and although plans were prepared for eight others, abandonment was necessary owing to the outbreak of hostilities.

3. RIVERS AND STREAMS.

In many cases there is gross pollution, and although as much as possible has been done to alleviate this, the only remedy is the construction of proper and efficient sewage disposal systems in the areas concerned.

4. CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The number of water closets is gradually increasing, but progress in this direction is naturally impeded by the inadequacy of the sewerage systems in some Parishes. The old insanitary privies are, however, gradually disappearing.

5. PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Quarterly collections of household refuse are made and salvage work also is carried out by the outside staff of the Inspector's Department. Work here is difficult owing to the shortage of space for tipping purposes.

6. SWIMMING POOLS AND BATHS.

There are no public swimming baths in the District.

7. ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Two cases were investigated and eradication carried out.

8. SCHOOLS.

Many of the buildings are archaic and crowded, but there are none where conditions are positively injurious to health. Sanitation is provided by earth closets and water by wells and public supplies.

BUCKINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report of Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor, Year ending December, 1943.

BUCKINGHAM,
31st May, 1944.

To the Chairman and Members Buckingham Rural District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg herewith to submit a brief report of the work carried out by my Department during the year ended 31st December, 1943.

General Survey of Inspections during the Year :

Total number of Inspections made	2522
Premises inspected on complaint	148
Dwelling-houses inspected under periodical review	Nil
Visits paid to houses under Public Health Acts	1
Houses inspected under Public Health Acts	1
Visits <i>re</i> Water Supply	20
„ Drainage	105
„ Salvage of Waste Materials	18
Miscellaneous visits	289
Evacuation	8
Bakehouses	Nil
* Refuse Collection and Disposal	61
Petroleum	Nil
Surplus Sites	2
Miscellaneous Sanitary	27
Premises inspected <i>re</i> overcrowding	Nil
Miscellaneous Housing visits	504
Visits paid to work in progress (Housing Agricultural Workers)	336
Inquiries <i>re</i> Infectious Diseases	40
Visits <i>re</i> Disinfections	19
„ to Dairies and Milkshops	1
„ to Cowsheds	106
Factories	17
Places of entertainment	1
Visits paid to work in progress (General)	216

Notices Served :

(1) Informal Notices	7
(2) Matters remedied as a result of (1)	7
(3) Statutory Notices served	2
(4) Reported to Council	4

Details of Nuisances Abated :

Overcrowding	Nil
Accumulations of Refuse	Nil
Foul Ditches, Ponds, etc.	1
Animals	Nil
Dampness	1
Premises Generally	13

Drains and Sewerage :

Water Closets substituted for pails or privies ...	4
Drains examined, tested, exposed	6
Drains unstopped, repaired, trapped, etc. ...	97
Waste-pipes, r.w. pipes disconnected, repaired, etc....	Nil
New soil pipes, vent shafts fixed	4
Existing soil pipes or vent pipes repaired ...	3

Miscellaneous Inspections :

Miscellaneous Emergency Visits	1
Salvage	88
Evacuation	8
Inspection Surplus Sites	2
Civilian War Deaths	Nil
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	27

Water Supply :

Samples obtained for analysis	3
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Bakehouses :

On Register	11
Underground Bakehouses	Nil

Cowsheds :

Producers on Register	317
Inspections	106
Contraventions of Regulations	14
Contraventions remedied	14
Improvements to Cowsheds and Dairies ...	18

Unsound Food :

Miscellaneous Food Visits	38
MEAT.—No records as all animals are now slaughtered in the Government Slaughterhouse in Buckingham Borough.	
Approx. weight of food condemned and destroyed ...	4 cwt.

Disinfections :

Rooms disinfected :	
(a) After ordinary infectious diseases ...	19
(b) After tuberculosis	1
(c) Rooms stripped and cleansed	20

House Refuse :

Parishes in which household refuse is removed by Public Scavenger.—All Parishes with the exception of Luffield Abbey and Biddlesden.

FREQUENCY OF COLLECTIONS.—It was hoped to carry out bi-monthly collections, but owing to labour difficulties this was found to be impossible, therefore the household refuse was collected at periods of three months.

METHOD OF FINAL DISPOSAL.—Controlled tipping.

Is refuse sorted for salvage purposes?—Yes.

Salvage material such as waste paper is collected separately at six-weekly periods, and taken to the Waste-paper Dépôt at Padbury for sorting and baling.

The Salvage sold during the year 1943 amounted to **75 tons, 16½ cwts.**, and realised **£312 10s. 5d.**

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking the Council, Medical Officer of Health and other officials, for their unfailing support and courtesy afforded to my Department during the past year.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

F. T. JENNINGS,

Surveyor & Sanitary Inspector

